

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 3

By Fraley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate John Berry of Tullahoma upon being named "Mr. Democrat of 2004" by the Highland Rim Democrats.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to commend those individuals whose energy and enthusiasm bring vigor and excitement to the political process of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. John Berry of Tullahoma in Coffee County is one such dedicated local political activist who, throughout his life, has embraced the political process through his recognition of the necessity of citizen involvement and his own personal participation; and

WHEREAS, born in Moore County to the late John L. and Gladys Berry, reared from age three or four in Tullahoma and educated at Davidson Academy school, John Berry and Rosie, his wife of 48 years, have raised three sons; Larry, now deceased, James Stephen and Anthony; the Berrys are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry believes that his first vote was cast for a former Tullahoma Mayor, the late Jack Farrar, in a local election; he gravitated to the Democratic Party based upon the experience of his father, who had secured the able assistance of the late U.S. Senator, Albert Gore, Sr., in taking care of a difficult problem; and

WHEREAS, John Berry, a charter member and past president of the Highland Rim Democrats, went on to serve as a Coffee County Commissioner for 18 years; as a Commissioner, he chaired the Law Enforcement, Capital Outlay and Health, Welfare and Recreation Committees and was vice chairman of the Salary Review Committee; he has also served on boards for the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center and the Department of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry valiantly served his nation for four years in the United States Army, preached at South Jackson Street Church of Christ for 34 years, served as supervisor at the C.D. Stamps Community Center for 17 years, and coached Little League baseball and Church League basketball; he is president of the Coffee County Senior Citizens and chairman of the board of Tullahoma Day Care Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry is an important part of his community, serving the Democratic Party and the people of Coffee County in numerous capacities; he is an active, enthusiastic and highly respected member of the Tullahoma and Coffee County communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry's sterling record of unstinting dedication and support of his party and his community and his ongoing commitment to the welfare of his fellow human beings are worthy of commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Mr. John Berry of Coffee County upon being named "Mr. Democrat of 2004" by the Highland Rim Democratic Club, thank him for his commitment to a vital political life for all Tennesseans, and wish him every success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.